

## **STIMULUS WATCH: WEEK 41**

*The Corps of Engineers is spending \$13.2 million in Stimulus funds for upgrades to a tourist attraction*

- The Corps of Engineers is spending \$13.2 million in taxpayer funds to upgrade a building in Sausalito, California which houses a 145,000 square foot working model of the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento Delta. The upgrades will include installing solar panels, making structural improvements, and general upgrades to the model itself.
- The former research facility was turned into a tourist-only location in 2000 when all scientific research there was suspended. Now, 150,000 visitors annually view the model on display. Meaning, the upgrades will cost \$88,000 in repairs per visitor.
- While the model may have some tourist interest, it is unclear how spending taxpayer Stimulus funds on it will create new jobs for the state. California's unemployment rate is currently 12.6%.
- Under the House Republican Stimulus Alternative, \$13.2 million in taxpayer would not be spent to upgrade a tourist attraction. Instead, Republicans would have created twice as many jobs at half the cost. To learn how visit: <http://republicanwhip.house.gov/Jobs/>
- **Source:** <http://www.fresnobee.com/2010/03/07/1849448/sausalitos-bay-model-still-moving.html>

The Washington Watch Report is available on the House Republican Whip's website:  
<http://republicanwhip.house.gov/blog/wwindex.html>

It is updated weekly with new items of wasteful stimulus spending, a look at jobs created by the stimulus.